Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

Media Office
Democratic Caucus
John Schorg, Director
Statehouse, Room 157
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
1-800-382-9842 or 1-317-232-9621
Fax Number: 1-317-232-9792

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 17, 2005

GOODIN BILL TO MANDATE DEATH SENTENCE FOR CHILD MURDERERS PASSED BY HOUSE

INDIANAPOLIS -- House Bill 1746, legislation coauthored by State Rep. Terry Goodin (D-Crothersville), that will make the death sentence mandatory for anyone convicted of murdering a person under the age of 18 with aggravating circumstances passed out of the House today by a vote of 72 - 17.

The aggravating circumstances that are listed in the bill are: committing or attempting to commit child molestation; criminal deviate conduct; kidnapping; rape; or criminal confinement.

"As I've traveled throughout my district and throughout Indiana, the people have said enough is enough," said Goodin. "Our children are too important to us. We must severely punish those who willfully murder a child."

In addition, criminal confinement is added to the list of crimes that the state may seek the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole for when murder is also committed.

House Bill 1746 also deals with sex offender registration. If passed, it will require that neighborhood associations be added to the list of entities that must periodically receive the sex and violent offender directory published by the criminal justice department.

House Bill 1746 now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

This news release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H66